

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 02798 131613Z

43
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 AID-05 /072 W

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O 131525Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4411
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USCINCEUR
USDOCOSOUTH
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE

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E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR TU CY
SUBJECT: AVLONA: TURKISH/UNFICYP CONFRONTATION

REF: NICOSIA 2772 (DTG 110802Z SEP 76)

1. SITUATION ON THE GROUND IN AVLONA HAS REMAINED QUIET SINCE SEPT 10 INCIDENT. TURKS HAVE INFORMED UNFICYP THAT THEY ARE MAKING A PROTEST TO UNSYG IN NEW YORK ABOUT UNFICYP BEHAVIOR IN INCIDENT. AS OF 1200 HOURS LOCAL SEPT 13 UNFICYP OFFICIALS IN NICOSIA WERE ENGAGED IN CONSTRUCTING A FULL REPORT OF THE INCIDENT TO SEND THE UNSYG FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH TURKISH UN REPRESENTATIVES. UN SPECIAL REP PEREZ DE CUELLAR DEPARTED NICOSIA FOR NEW YORK AM SEPT 13 TO TAKE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 02798 131613Z

PART IN UNSYG CONSULTATIONS WITH NEGOTIATORS ONAN AND

PAPADOPOULOS BUT HE WILL ALSO BRIEF UNSYG ON AVLONA SITUATION.

2. RESULTS OF JOINT INQUIRY (REFTEL) WILL NOT BE KNOWN UNTIL SEPT 14. ON THAT DATE DENKTASH WILL BE HOSTING A MEETING WITH UN OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS THE REPORT. UN OFFICIALS WILL BE VISITING INJURED "TURK CYPRIOT FARMERS" IN HOSPITAL TODAY.

3. TURK CYPRIOT NEWSPAPERS SEPT 13 HEADLINED STORIES ABOUT AVLONA. THEY NOTE THAT DENKTASH PAID A VISIT TO AVLONA VILLAGE AND SAID THAT TURK CYPRIOT FARMERS WERE "JUSTIFIED" IN THEIR CAUSE. ON SEPT 12 "DEFENSE AND FOREIGN MINISTER" OF THE "TFSC" CHELIK NOTED THAT "THE TENSE ATMOSPHERE IN THE AVLONA AREA IS CONTINUING, ALTHOUGH THE BRITISH SOLDIERS OF UNFICYP HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM THE DISPUTED POINTS." GREEK CYPRIOT NEWSPAPERS COVERED THE INCIDENT IN MUCH LOWER KEY WITH UNFICYP GETTING MIXED REVIEWS AS TO WHETHER IT HAD OR HAD NOT PLAYED A USEFUL ROLE IN PREVENTING TURK CYPRIOT FARMERS' ACTIVITIES IN THE DMZ.

4. AFTER ABOVE DRAFTED, WE SPOKE WITH UNFICYP SOURCE, WHO CONFIRMED THAT SITUATION IN AVLONA WAS QUIET ON SEPT 13 BUT ALSO NOTED THAT TURKISH FORCES HAVE NOT ISSUED WARNING TO UNFICYP SECTOR AUTHORITIES THAT: "IF THE UNITED NATIONS CONTINUES TO ATTACK TURKISH FARMERS... MACHINE GUNS WILL SHOOT CLOSE AS WARNING SHOTS..." THE TURKISH FORCES ALSO STATED THAT THE UNITED NATIONS MUST NOT GO NORTH OF 90 NORTHING (EXCEPT TO EXISTING UN OBSERVATION POSTS) AND MUST NOT USE PATROL TRACK THROUGH AVLONA VILLAGE. (NORTHING IS IN DMZ ABOUT HALFWAY BETWEEN GREEK NATIONAL GUARD AND TURKISH FORCES).

5. COMMENTING ON SITUATION, UNFICYP MILITARY AUTHORITIES NOTED THEIR BELIEF THAT LOCAL MILITARY LEVEL NEGOTIATIONS ON AVLONA WILL AT BEST LEAD TO A SERIES OF SHORT-DURATION TRuces PUNCTUATED BY INCIDENTS BETWEEN UNFICYP AND TURKISH FORCES. UNFICYP OFFICIALS THUS BELIEVE THAT A SATISFACTORY ACCOMMODATION ON THE GROUND AT AVLONA CANNOT BE REACHED AT THE LOCAL LEVEL BUT ONLY IN HIGHER-LEVEL TALKS WITH PARTICIPANTS OF

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PAGE 03 NICOSI 02798 131613Z

POLITICAL ELEMENTS FROM ANKARA.
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